

signal processing functions associated with a first signal processing apparatus. This set of automation commands then controls the first signal processing apparatus by invoking the first set of automated signal processing functions. Additionally, these same automation commands are used to control the operation of at least a second signal processing apparatus. The second signal processing apparatus has a second, different set of automated signal processing functions, and uses a different timecode signal. This control is implemented by these same automation commands generated to control the first apparatus by invoking the second set of automated signal processing functions, even if they are different from the first set of signal processing functions. Applicants therefore submit that claim 1 now recites a formally proper claim, and submit that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112 would be improper. Applicants additionally respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 2-11 depending, either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1, would similarly be improper.

The Examiner also rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112. As noted above, Applicants have cancelled claim 12, and therefore submit that this rejection be withdrawn as moot.

At paragraph 4 of the final Office Action in the parent application, the Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by any number of references. Applicants have cancelled claim 12, and therefore submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) should be withdrawn as moot.

Claims 1-11 were rejected only under 35 U.S.C. §112, and the amendment of claim 1 to cure the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 would result in the allowance of these claims. Because claims 1-11 have not been rejected over any prior art, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-11 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The statements appearing above in respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of Applicants' undersigned attorney and, in the event that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

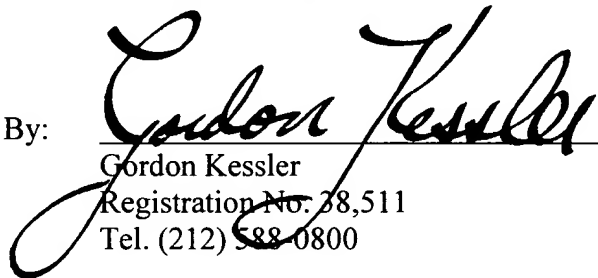
Applicants have made a diligent effort to place claims 1-11 in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner is unable to issue a Notice of Allowance regarding these claims, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney in order to discuss any further outstanding issues.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By:


Gordon Kessler
Registration No. 38,511
Tel. (212) 588-0800

MARKED-UP CLAIM

1. (Thrice Amended) A signal processing system in which a set of automation commands are generated, said set of automation commands being generated based upon a timecode signal and a first set of automated signal processing functions associated with a first signal processing apparatus, said set of automation commands [for] controlling said first signal processing apparatus by invoking [via] said first set of automated signal processing functions, said automation commands also controlling the operation of at least a second signal processing apparatus having a second, different set of automated signal processing functions and [based upon] using a different timecode signal by similarly invoking said second set of automation signal processing functions.